

You have created a whole new industry out there of consultants that are hired to do these permits, do this evaluation, at a great cost to the public. And the justification for this really is questionable, given the lack of cost-benefit and risk analysis that should be associated with the process and unfortunately is not.

If you want to go into the logging business in my State, at the last count you have to get some 41 permits. You have to have a radio operator's license to run your camp. You have to have a Corps of Engineers permit to run your camp, and on and on and on and on.

There can be no argument that reforming the way we do regulatory business in this country is of paramount importance. We cannot seem to get that reform.

We are not ready to give up by any means. We are going to keep going at it. But in the meantime, there is no reason why we should not move with this particular bill, the small business relief that Senator BOND and Senator BUMPERS have developed in the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act. I commend them for their efforts. There is a consensus on the need for the bill. There is a consensus on the content of the bill. There is a consensus on the relief that this bill would provide to the small business community—stimulate employment, stimulate investment, stimulate inventory buildup—and yet we cannot get the consensus we need to bring it up in the Chamber.

The question the Senator from Alaska has to ask the Chair is, why? There are so many positive benefits to this legislation—teeth for the 16-year-old Regulatory Flexibility Act to allow judicial review of adverse impacts regulations have on small businesses. It includes penalty waivers and reductions for small business violations that are of little if any significance, recovery of attorney's fees when small business is forced into defensive litigation due to enforcement excesses, and, finally, small business participation in rule-making.

We cannot keep missing the opportunity to pass positive, helpful legislation for important segments of America's small business industry. We should not miss the opportunity to pass this bill. Obviously, the weekend is going to go by. We are going to take this up again next week. But I would encourage my colleagues to allow this bipartisan bill to come before the floor to get it passed. We owe that much to the American people.

I think we ought to be asking our friends on the other side of the aisle why they see fit to hold up this important legislation. I encourage America's small business community to demand an answer, because we are ready to go with it on our side, and I think those people out there who are frustrated are waiting and certainly deserve an answer.

Mr. President, that concludes my statement. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GRAMS). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### WHITEWATER DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AND RELATED MATTERS—MOTION TO PROCEED

##### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to Senate Resolution 227, the Whitewater legislation, and I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

##### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to S. Res. 227, regarding the Whitewater extension:

ALFONSE D'AMATO, TRENT LOTT, JESSE HELMS, PHIL GRAMM, JUDD GREGG, DIRK KEMPTHORNE, STROM THURMOND, JIM JEFFORDS, OLYMPIA SNOWE, BOB SMITH, DAN COATS, LARRY E. CRAIG, JOHN ASHCROFT, THAD COCHRAN, JON KYL, ROBERT F. BENNETT.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture vote occur immediately following the 2:15 p.m., vote on Tuesday, March 12, and that the live quorum under rule XXII be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996—CONFERENCE REPORT

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I now ask that the Senate turn to the conference report for the D.C. appropriations bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the conference report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Conference report to accompany H.R. 2546, a bill making appropriations for the Government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the conference report.

##### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

##### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby

move to bring to a close debate on the conference report to accompany H.R. 2546, the D.C. Appropriations bill.

BOB DOLE, TRENT LOTT, JESSE HELMS, PHIL GRAMM, JUDD GREGG, DIRK KEMPTHORNE, STROM THURMOND, OLYMPIA SNOWE, BOB SMITH, DAN COATS, LARRY E. CRAIG, JOHN ASHCROFT, THAD COCHRAN, JON KYL, MARK HATFIELD, ROBERT F. BENNETT.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture vote occur at 2:15 p.m., on Tuesday, March 12, and the live quorum under rule XXII be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### REPORT ON THE U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 128

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

*To the Congress of the United States:*

As required by section 603 of the Goldwater-Nichols Department of Defense Reorganization Act of 1986, I am transmitting a report on the National Security Strategy of the United States.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, March 7, 1996.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:19 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House to the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations: Mr. SHAYS of Connecticut and Mr. PORTMAN of Ohio.

At 12:22 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3021. An act to guarantee the continuing full investment of Social Security and other Federal funds in obligations of the United States.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-1934. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled "The National Study of Water Management During Drought"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1935. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report under the Architectural Barriers Act for fiscal year 1995; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.